

**LONG TERM PAVEMENT PERFORMANCE  
PROGRAM DIRECTIVE  
For The Technical Direction Of The LTPP Program**

**Program Area:** Monitoring

**Directive Number:** DIST-3

**Supersedes:** SHRP Directive D-2

**Date:** September 1, 1994

**Subject:** Distress Monitoring Frequency and Priorities -- 35mm Film

This directive documents the nominal distress measurement frequency for all Long-Term Pavement Performance (LTPP) test sections and the priorities to be considered when all required measurements cannot be completed.

**A. Measurement Frequency**

1. The nominal frequency for routine distress measurement of LTPP test sections shall be as follows. Where a given test section is included in more than one of the categories outlined, the maximum measurement frequency applies.

<b>LTPP Experiment/Program</b>	<b>Nominal Measurement Frequency</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
GPS	Biannual	Approximately 1/2 of all test sections to be tested in any one year
SPS	Biannual	See 2 and 3 below
Seasonal Monitoring	3 times/year during the monitoring cycle	At least 2 of the 3 measurements done using manual procedure; once during the summer and once in the winter or spring

2. Pre-construction measurement for SPS-3, -4, -5, -6 and -7 projects is to be conducted three months prior to construction. Where this is not feasible, measurement up to six months prior to actual construction will suffice.

3. Measurement of Sections 2, 4, 8, and 10 in SPS-1 projects and Sections 1, 5, 8, and 12 in SPS-2 projects (hereafter referred to as "weak" sections) is to be conducted every six months. Where this is not feasible, measurement intervals up to once per year will suffice.

4. Pre-construction or terminal measurement is to be conducted on any section which is to be modified (overlaid, reconstructed, etc.), whether it will continue as an LTPP test section or not. Where feasible, measurement should be conducted not more than three months prior to construction. Where this is not feasible, measurement up to six months prior to actual construction will suffice.

## B. Priorities

Where resource limitations prohibit completion of all planned distress measurements, the following order of precedence shall be followed in setting priorities.

Priority Level	Type of Measurement	Remarks
1	Pre-construction measurement for SPS-3, -4, -5, -6 and -7 experiments	
1	Seasonal monitoring of sites which have been instrumented	Surveying of seasonal monitoring sites which have not been instrumented is not required.
1	Pre-construction or terminal measurement for any section (GPS or SPS) which is to be modified	
2	Measurement of "weak" SPS-1 or -2 sections	Measurement may be postponed if absolutely necessary, but must be completed within six months of the specified time.
2	Long term measurement of GPS and SPS sites	Measurement may be postponed up to one year.

Note: Manual measurements are to be conducted by the RCOs when (1) the 35 mm film cannot be used, or (2) there is access to the test section as a result of other LTPP activities and time permits.